Dear Sir

I wrote from the Downs between 4 and 5
o'Clock to you that my Health & Spirits
had suffered a Change for the worse since
I left Portsmouth, & that I was then
resolved to return to Portsmouth; if so, you will
please to pursue such Measures as may be most
for the Interest of the Service & my Honour.

I think it best you
should be at Sea as much as possible;
if the Wind be Easterly
you may Stand as far as the Coast of France
& if Westerly Stand in for the Land
sufficient to make sure of it, & then
keep Turning to & fro in the Channel
till it changes; if you then see such
a Force of the Enemy coming up Channel
as you cannot deal with, you will
keep to the Northward of them,
& endeavour to get Information of
their Motions, & Strength, & send it
to me by Swift Sailing Vessels appointed
for that Purpose, & follow them
yourself at a Distance, so as to
be able to form a Judgment of
their Destination, & to give me
Notice thereof by Swift Sailing Vessels
as before directed, that I may
be able to put myself in a proper
Position to intercept them, or
to Act as Circumstances may require.

If you should be certain that the Enemy
are gone to the Westward, you will
follow them with the Fleet under your
Command, & use your best Endeavours
to Destroy or Take them, sending
Me Notice of your Proceedings as often
as Occasion may require.

If you should be certain that the Enemy
are gone to the North

Security necessary; he can easily repay you the
Sum Stipulated as Interest & Profit on Shares
& Whenever he calls pray upon Him Cash for
what ever Sum or Sums of Money you may
Want for the Service of the State of Carolina
You are to draw Bills on Him for the Same
& I Shall Credit you accordingly for the
Same. I Shall Recommend Him to Mess.rs
Willink & Co. of whom I have Requested Him to make
Enquiry & Receive Information, as well as to
you with Whom he is to Correspond. I am with Truth
Dear Sir Your Most Obed.t Servt

John Adams

Paris 1.st Sept.r 1779

Mess.rs Willink & Jan.e Nephew
Merch.ts Amsterdam

RW 759(1)

NS.CH.C, 4, 38-39

RW 7591

To

Messrs Nic.s & Jacob Van Staphorst

Merchants

Amsterdam

Paris 6th Oct.r 1779.

A. Gillon recommending

Ralph Izard Esq.r